

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A system for transmitting forward link transponder assignments to a mobile platform comprising:
 - at least one receiver on the mobile platform;
 - at least one transmitter on the mobile platform;
 - at least one transponder in communication with the receiver, the transponder comprising return link assignments;
 - at least one ground base station in communication with the receiver, the ground base station comprising a master forward link transponder assignment list; and
 - a default transponder assignment table loaded on the receiver, the default transponder assignment table comprising a default forward link transponder assignment table,

wherein when the transmitter transmits a signal to the transponder based on the default transponder assignment table, the transponder transmits the return link assignment to the receiver, and the transmitter transmits a signal to the ground base station via the transponder such that the ground base station transmits a correct forward link assignment via the transponder to the receiver.

2. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the transponder is on a satellite.

3. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein the master forward link transponder assignment list comprises a plurality of transponders on a plurality of satellites for a plurality regions around the world.

4. (currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the ground base station communicates with the receiver through a forward link from the ground base station to the satellite, such that the transponder transmits the correct forward link transponder assignment to the mobile platform.

5. (currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the plurality of transponders are prioritized by the ground base station such that the receiver can be tuned to another transponder in the event of a transponder failure.

6. (currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the plurality of satellites are prioritized by the ground base station such that the receiver can be tuned to transponder on another satellite in the event of a satellite failure.

7. (currently amended) A system for transmitting forward link transponder assignments from at least one transponder to a plurality of mobile platforms comprising:

~~at least one piece of a receiver equipment component~~ on the mobile platform;

at least one ground station in communication with the mobile platform via the transponder, the ~~ground base~~ station comprising a master forward link transponder assignment list; and

~~at least one piece of a communications equipment component~~ on the mobile platform, the communications component including:

a default transponder assignment table loaded on the communications component, the default transponder table comprising a default forward link transponder assignment table,

wherein when the ~~piece of communications equipment component~~ transmits the forward link transponder assignments to the ~~piece of receiver equipment component~~ when the ~~piece of receiver equipment component~~ loses at least one forward link assignment.

8. (currently amended) The system of Claim 7, further comprising:
~~a default transponder assignment table loaded on the piece of communications equipment, the default transponder table comprising a default forward link transponder assignment table,~~

wherein when the ~~piece of receiver equipment component~~ is inoperable, the ~~piece of communications equipment component~~ transmits a signal to the transponder based on the default transponder assignment table, the transponder transmits a return link assignment to the ~~piece of communications equipment component~~, and the mobile platform transmits a signal to the ~~ground base~~ station via the transponder such that the ground station transmits a correct forward link assignment via the transponder to the ~~piece of communications equipment component~~.

9. (original) The system of Claim 8, wherein the transponder is on a satellite.

10. (original) The system of Claim 9, wherein the master forward link transponder assignment list comprises a plurality of transponders on a plurality of satellites for a plurality of regions around the world.

11. (currently amended) The system of Claim 10, wherein the ground base station communicates with the receiver through a forward link from the ground base station to the satellite, such that the transponder transmits the correct forward link transponder assignment to the mobile platform.

12. (currently amended) The system of Claim 10, wherein the plurality of transponders are prioritized by the ground base station such that the receiver can be tuned to another transponder in the event of a transponder failure.

13. (currently amended) The system of Claim 10, wherein the plurality of satellites are prioritized by the ground base station such that the receiver can be tuned to transponder on another satellite in the event of a satellite failure.

14. (currently amended) A method of transmitting forward link transponder assignments to a mobile platform comprising the steps of:

- (a) loading a default forward link transponder assignment table onto a receiver of a mobile terminal of the mobile platform;
- (b) transmitting a signal from a transmitter of the mobile terminal to at least one transponder listed in the default forward link transponder assignment table;
- (c) transmitting a return link assignment from the at least one transponder to the receiver of the mobile terminal;
- (d) transmitting a signal from the transmitter to a ground base via the transponder requesting correct forward link transponder assignments;
- (e) transmitting the correct forward link transponder assignments from the ground base station via the transponder to the receiver; and
- (f) retuning the receiver to the correct transponders based on the correct forward link transponder assignments.

15. (currently amended) The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of transmitting the correct forward link transponder assignment is accomplished through a forward link from the ground base station to the satellite, such that the transponder transmits the correct forward link transponder assignment to the mobile platform.

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A method of tuning receivers to a transponder tuned by a failed receiver comprising the steps of:

- (a) loading a plurality of priority sets of forward link transponder assignments on a ground base station;
- (b) loading a plurality of priority satellites on a ground base station;
- (c) re-tuning the receivers to a first priority set of transponders until the transponder is tuned;
- (d) re-tuning the receivers to a second priority set of transponders until the transponder is tuned if step (c) fails to tune the transponder;
- (e) repeating step (d) for additional priority sets of transponders until the transponder is tuned;
- (f) re-tuning the receivers to a first priority satellite if step (e) fails to tune the transponder;
- (g) re-tuning the receivers to a second priority satellite if step (e) fails to tune the transponder; and
- (h) repeating step (g) for additional priority sets of transponders until the transponder is tuned.